

# 4th & Stewart church of Christ

"...upon this rock I will build my church;  
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."  
~ Matthew 16:18



April 8, 2018

## Contact Us:

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## Meeting Times:

### Sunday:

Bible Study .....9:45 AM  
Worship .....10:40 AM  
Care, Inc. Service .... 2:30 PM  
Worship ..... 6:00 PM

### Wednesday:

Ladies Bible Class.10:00 AM  
Bible Study ..... 7:00 PM

## Elders:

Gene Bannister..... Billy Chism

## Deacons:

Mike Bannister..... Don Smith

James Thomas

## Preacher:

Johnny McCaghren

## Works We Support:

Cherokee Home for Children  
Gospel Broadcast Network  
Heart of Texas Bible Camp (Bangs)  
House to House, Heart to Heart  
Mission Printing  
Rohan Jones, Africa  
The Truth in Love  
World Bible School

## Why Every Christian Should be Interested in Evangelism

1. **Evangelism imitates the work that Jesus did on earth.** The record of Jesus' life shows more individual teaching situations than public. Privately teaching helps to explain the whole counsel of God, as Jesus did. Individual needs can be dealt with better in an individual teaching situation.
2. **Evangelism will seek and save the lost.** The purpose of Jesus was "to seek and save the lost" (Luke 19:10). As Christians, we should be trying to find the lost who are unaware of their spiritual condition, and the Lord will work with us to open their eyes to His truth.
3. **Evangelism is one of the commands God has given us.** The disciples understood His command very clearly in the first century. It is no more difficult to understand today. Remember the command is to "Go and make disciples," not "Go and make excuses."
4. **Evangelism follows the pattern before us.** Paul said, "I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have showed you, and have taught you publicly and from house to house" (Acts 20:20). We might call this spiritual 20/20 vision.
5. **Evangelism bears fruit that glorifies God.** The Bible is very clear that not everyone can be a public teacher, but every Christian is to bear fruit. Jesus said, "Every branch in me that beareth not fruit, he taketh away; and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bear more fruit" (John 15:2). A few verses later, He added, "herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples."
6. **Evangelism helps us all to appreciate the power of the Gospel more and more.** The more we become involved in evangelism, the more we see the Scriptures applied personally to increase our own faith in the Gospel.
7. **Evangelism develops enthusiasm in the workers.** The more involved each of us is in the work the Lord has given us, the more enthusiastic we become. Involvement of individual Christians was the key to the growth of the Lord's church in the first century, and it will be today.
8. **Evangelism helps us appreciate the spiritual blessings we enjoy in Christ.** When an individual becomes obedient to the Gospel, the light of excitement as he or she begins to appreciate the spiritual blessings in Christ is seen in the eyes, and that helps the worker to have renewed appreciation for the spiritual blessings God has given us.

"Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth laborers into His harvest." (Luke 10:2)

Doyle Wells (Christian Worker, April 2018)

I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to wise and to unwise. So, as much as is in me, I am ready to preach the gospel to you who are in Rome also. For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

**Romans 1:14-16**

Let us know if you want to study the Bible to know more about Christ and His Church.



# You Never Mentioned Him to Me

Is there a someone you know that would make a great Christian? Obviously. It could be a relative, co-worker, friend or schoolmate. The point is that everyone knows someone that would make an outstanding servant of the Lord. The question that we really need to be asking is: Have you approached this person with the Gospel? If we really think that they would be great in His service, why have we not tried to teach them the Gospel of the Lord?

Many times in our lives we give up chances to share the Gospel message. Solomon wrote about missed opportunities in Ecclesiastes 11:1, 4: *“Cast your bread upon the waters, for you will find it after many days. ... He who observes the wind will not sow, and he who regards the clouds will not reap.”*

In verse one, Solomon is saying that when occasions arise to do something, do it. *“Cast your bread”* has reference to the sowing of grain. The *“waters”* are the rain waters which have not receded from the ground yet. Solomon says to plant the seed, even though the flood waters still cover the ground, for it will produce.

Then in verse four, Solomon describes the man that makes excuses for not planting. This person *“observes the wind,”* meaning that it is too windy to plant. This man may say that it looks like it might rain, because he *“regards the clouds.”* Thus, he makes excuses over the smallest things and will never be able to plant his seed. Today, the seed is the Word of God (Luke 8:11), and the field is the world of souls. As Christians, we are sowers of the Word of God (Matt. 20:18-20; Mark 16:15; Rom. 1:14-16), and God expects us to plant the seed. Often, however, we pass up the opportunity to teach someone about Jesus Christ. Maybe we do not realize that we will be held accountable for our forsaken responsibilities. The opportunity was pointed out by Christ as being fields

*“white for harvest”* (John 4:35). These opportunities combine with our abilities as Christians to produce responsibility. Sometimes we have the audacity to try and make excuses for not going into the field to sow.

What are some reasons for not going to the fields? One reason might be fear. Sometimes we are afraid that the person we approach will laugh at us, or slam the door in our face. It could be that we are afraid to jeopardize our relationship. Maybe we are afraid that they will ask us a question that we do not know. Fear is not a reason to abandon the work of the Lord. Consider Ananias in Acts 9. He was called by God to go and help Saul of Tarsus, a Pharisee that was a known prosecutor of the Way. Ananias was afraid of Saul because he had heard of the deeds which Saul had done, but God said, *“Go.”* It is unlikely that we will suffer physical persecution of the sort Ananias feared, but for some reason we are still afraid to go.

Another feeble excuse given by some is that they do not have enough time. This cannot be accepted either. God made the day to be twenty-four hours long, and every man has that same time allotment. We find in Acts 18 that Aquila and Priscilla were tentmakers, but found time to teach Apollos and others about their Redeemer. If they were able to make tents by hand and still have enough time to teach the Gospel, why is it that we cannot fit one study into our schedule?

There are other excuses that we use, but the bottom line is that God will not accept any of them. We are the earthen vessels that carry the Word of power to other men (2 Cor. 4:7). It is a fact that when opportunity meets ability, the result is responsibility. We need to quit trying to avoid the obligation we have and make time to teach others. Imagine the person you think would have been a great Christian in hell, saying, *“You never mentioned Him to me.”*

Now, go teach him.

*Sam Dilbeck (Christian Worker, April 2018)*

## Television

The Truth In Love (Robert Dodson)

Sunday @ 7:00am on KTAB

In Search of the Lord's Way (Phil Sanders)

Sunday @ 7:30am on KTAB

Life In The Light (Chris McCurley)

Sunday @ 10:00am on KTAB

## Radio

Preaching the Word (Michael Light)

Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3

## Internet

TheGospelRadioNetwork.org

Gospel Broadcasting Network (Gbnv.org)

## God's Plan for Redeeming Man

**Hear** Learn the saving message of Christ's sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).

**Believe** Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)

**Confess** Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)

**Repent** of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)

Complete your initial obedience to the gospel by being **baptized** for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)

**Live faithfully** (Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:7-8)

## Bible Reading Schedule

**Apr. 8** 2 Samuel 22—24

**Apr. 9** 1 Kings 1—2 (video)

**Apr. 10** 1 Kings 3—4

**Apr. 11** 1 Kings 5—7

**Apr. 12** 1 Kings 8—9

**Apr. 13** 1 Kings 10—11

**Apr. 14** 1 Kings 12—13

**Apr. 15** 1 Kings 14—17

*“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”*

(2 Timothy 2:15)



**Visitation Meeting**

- ◆ Each Sunday night immediately before the evening worship. Last week **46 contacts** were made.

**Announcements**

- ◆ **Ladies' Day** this Saturday at Hwy. 36, east of Abilene
- Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart**
- ◆ August 14—Host Summer Youth Series.
- ◆ October 14-17—Fall Gospel Meeting with Jacob Rutledge.
- Other Upcoming Opportunities to Learn and Grow**
- ◆ **April 14—Ladies' Day @ Hwy. 36 Church of Christ, "The Different Hats We Wear—God's Roles for Me"**
- ◆ April 15-18—Gospel Meeting @ Lake Shore Drive (Waco) w/ Wes McAdams.
- ◆ April 27-28—Heart of Texas Ladies Retreat @ Brady
- ◆ April 28—Ladies' Day @ Comanche, "Be Still and Know that I Am God"
- ◆ April 29-May 2—Gospel Meeting at Windmill (Weatherford) w/ Wade Webster, "Tell Us Plainly"
- ◆ May 5—Cherokee Day @ Cherokee Home for Children
- ◆ May 5-10—Focal Point @ University (San Marcos).
- ◆ May 12—Ladies' Day @ Dublin, "Generations Joined in Jesus"
- ◆ May 23-28—Young Men's Development Conference @ College Station (BSC Church of Christ)
- ◆ June 17-21—Lakes Shore Drive Junior Camp (Grades 2-7)
- ◆ June 24-28—Junior Camp
- ◆ July 15-20—Senior Camp
- ◆ Aug. 3-5—Discipleship University (Dripping Springs)

# Just Can't Contain It

Excitement refuses to be contained. Just try to keep a grandmother with a new grandchild quiet. From exciting experiences to the joy of new acquisitions, we want to share with others whatever thrills our hearts. Moses was no exception.

When Jethro arrived at the Israelite camp, "**Moses told his father-in-law all that the LORD had done to Pharaoh and to Egypt for Israel's sake, and all the hardship that had come on them along the way, and how the LORD had delivered them**" (Exodus 18:8). It is easy to visualize an animated Moses describing how God's power overcame every obstacle: enslavement, entrapment, hunger and thirst.

Predictably, "*Jethro rejoiced because of all the good that the LORD had done for Israel, whom he had delivered from the hand of Egypt*" (Exodus 18:9).

What thrills our hearts? What do we find so compelling that we cannot keep quiet about it?

We have something to share that transcends everything else. In Peter's words,

*"...knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. ...for you who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God. ...**you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy**" (1 Peter 1:18-19, 21; 2:9-10).*

Barry Newton (forthright.net)

## Celebrate

*"Rejoice with those who rejoice..." (Romans 12:15)*

**April Birthdays:** Vicki Tallent (4), Lasha Dennis (6), Sarah Rudloff (6), **Ginger King (8), Jimmie Claborn (9), Kristi Maninger (9), Becky Smith (9), Darlene Smith (10),** Caroline Dennis (30).

**April Anniversaries: John & Tina Barnum (8).**

*Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...*



## Records

	Mar. 25, 2018	Apr. 1, 2018
Bible Class	75	54
AM Worship	82	72
PM Worship	46	43
Wednesday PM	44	47
Contribution	\$2,333	\$2,499

	This Week: 4/8/18	Next Week: 4/15/18		
<b>Sunday AM:</b>	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	<p><b>April 2018</b>  <b>Make Announcements:</b>                      John Barnum  <b>Prepare Communion:</b>                      Dennis Family  <b>Clean Building:</b>                      John Barnum Family</p> <p><b>May 2018</b>  <b>Make Announcements:</b>                      James Fuller  <b>Prepare Communion:</b>                      James &amp; Cindy Fuller  <b>Clean Building:</b>                      Mike &amp; Patti Bannister</p>	
<b>Greeters</b>	James & Cindy Fuller	Dennis Family		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	John Barnum	Gene Bannister		
<b>Communion</b>	Ken Maninger*, Chase Churchwell Hank Wheeler, Rafe Smith	John Barnum*, Larry Petty Ken Maninger, Chase Churchwell		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Gene Bannister	Allen Griffith		
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Ian Barnum	Jaceten Evetts		
<b>Sunday PM:</b>	Song Leader: James Fuller	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Tom Wilcox	Ryan Rudloff		
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Allen Griffith	James Fuller		
<b>Communion</b>	Ken Maninger	John Barnum		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Don Smith	Rafe Smith		
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	April 11 Ryan Rudloff	April 18 Rafe Smith	April 25 Don Smith	May 2 Prayer Night

## Search the Scriptures

*Be like the Bereans who "received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." (Acts 17:11)*

### Studies for the week of April 8, 2018

Sunday Class ..... **Romans 11:11**  
 Wed. Class ..... **Old Testament History: Genesis 21:22**

#### Our Debt: We Owe Them – Romans 1:14-17

##### I. The Text.

###### A. Paul was eager to preach because he was debtor to all.

1. We are all familiar with the concept of being in debt to someone.
2. We might be in debt to pass on something, which has been given to us by another (1 Cor. 9:16).

###### B. Paul was eager to preach the gospel because the gospel is the power of God for salvation.

1. Paul makes it clear that he is not ashamed of the gospel (Rom. 1:16).
2. The preaching of Christ crucified was "foolishness" to the Gentiles (1 Cor. 1:23).
3. On the contrary, Paul stands for the message; he is proud of it and has good reasons for it – it is the power of God for salvation.
  - a. "Power" (δύναμις) is the word from which we get such words as "dynamic," "dynamo," and "dynamite."
  - b. The basis for this power is in v. 17; namely, in the gospel is revealed "the righteousness of God".
  - c. The gospel message is the means by which God enables people to be made right; to have good standing with him.

##### II. Application for Today.

###### A. We must be eager to preach the gospel.

1. One cannot read Paul's eagerness to preach the gospel without considering our own obligation.
2. Like Paul, we owe so much to so many.
  - a. We are in debt to those who have shared the gospel with us.
  - b. We are debtors because of the grace and mercy which was shed on us by our Lord who "has loved us and given himself for us" (Eph. 5:2).
3. There are good reasons why we should be eager to spread the gospel.
  - a. We should be eager to tell others because of what it will do for them.
  - b. We should be eager to tell others the gospel because of what it will do for us.

###### B. We must not be ashamed of the gospel.

###### C. We must realize the gospel is for all.

God help us to carry out the task of spreading the good news.

#### The Liberty By Which Christ Has Made Us Free (Gal. 5:1)

##### I. Application of the Allegory of Hagar and Sarah (5:1).

- A. This verse belongs at the end of chapter 4.
- B. Stand fast therefore in the liberty [freedom] by which Christ had made us free.
  1. Freedom was a concept which inflamed and emboldened the Greeks.
  2. Paul, however, was referring to a far greater world-changing force than Hellenization – a freedom of mind and heart from the burden of guilt and the power of sin.
  3. "In...liberty" [for freedom]!
- C. Paul finishes his application by saying, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.
  1. The "yoke of bondage" was the Law.
  2. The idea of being under a yoke of any kind is typically assumed to have a negative connotation.
- D. The yoke of Christ (Mt. 11:28-30).
  1. In the Lord's invitation to Christian discipleship, the negative is not readily visible.
  2. The imagery of the yoke was often used in Jewish circles for binding oneself to the instruction of a rabbi.
    - a. Jesus' language would have been heard as contrasting His teaching and His way to the way of the rabbis.
    - b. Jesus' invitation in Mt. 11:28:30 is cast in the mold of a rabbinical invitation to come into His house and accept Him as Teacher.
  3. The purpose and intent of the yoke metaphor.
    - a. In its literal sense, the yoke, placed upon the neck of a beast of burden, was to equip it to perform a task – without a yoke, the animal could not pull a plow, a cart, etc.
    - b. As Jesus used the metaphor, concepts such as service, responsibility, obligations to keeping commandments, and submission to His will cannot be eliminated – these are inherent in the concept of a yoke.
    - c. What makes the Lord's yoke "easy" is the believer's willing submission (Rom. 6:17) and the gift of the Holy Spirit, who strengthens him to live on the spiritual plane.